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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of Kessler *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 1655

Serial No.: 09/530,929

Examiner: Sisson, B.

Filed: May 4, 2000

Attorney Docket No. 4817/OP

For: **SPECIFIC AND SENSITIVE NUCLEIC ACID DETECTION METHOD**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Alameda, CA 94501
July 9, 2001

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-referenced application as entering the National Stage under 35 U.S.C. §371, please consider the following amendments and remarks.